

CONFIDENTIAL

19 April 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director, Intelligence

FROM: Assistant Director, Collection & Dissemination

SUBJECT: U.S. nationals known or believed to be held
against their will in Communist China, the
USSR, and the European Satellites

1. According to information supplied by the Departments of State and Defense the following appear to be the number of U.S. citizens known or believed to be held against their wills in Communist China, the USSR, and the European Satellites:

	Communist China	USSR and Eur. Sats.
Civilians.....	41	1
Army.....	247	-
Navy.....	9	10
Air Force.....	206	33
Marine Corps.....	14	-
Coast Guard.....	<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>
	522	44

2. State and Defense have established "Prisoner Officers" within their departments, each of whom is responsible to his Secretary for coordinating all action and public statements regarding Americans in Communist China. Mr Martin of State has the data on civilians, while LtCol Monroe has the data on all servicemen. See Tabs B and C.

3. Information on persons held in the USSR and the European Satellites is not centralized in any way, but must be obtained from the political desks in State and the casualty branches in the services. See Tabs B and C.

4. Other agencies in the federal government have yielded no information of value on this subject. See Tab D.

5. In view of the relatively small numbers of persons involved it does not seem to me that it would be profitable to establish an IBM file on them in CIA. Such a file would be entirely dependent on current information from State and Defense, and could hardly be kept sufficiently current to avoid the need of checking back to both of these agencies before issuing a list on any given date.


James M. Andrews

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